



# MIND YOUR MANOR

ORWIN MANOR WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION – Serving Orwin Manor Westminister since 1983

No. 2 Spring 2023

## OMWA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By President Stephen Pategas

The OMW Centennial program 100 Trees for 100 Years encourages the planting of trees throughout the neighborhood. The benefits of the shade that trees provide include lower power bills and a spot for a seating area or hammock. Trees also provide wildlife habitat, absorption of carbon dioxide and stormwater, higher property values, and free leaf mulch.

While many street trees have been planted, there are numerous yards throughout our neighborhood that have space for canopy/shade trees and/or smaller understory trees. They all count toward our 100 Trees for 100 Years goal.

Canopy/shade trees such as oaks, bald cypress, winged elms, and magnolias may reach 60 to 80 feet in height. Plant these away from the house at about one-half of their potential height. Understory/accent trees including trumpet tabebuia, ligustrum, crape myrtle, Simpson's stopper, and yaupon holly trees provide a good sense of scale and will

rarely overwhelm a house. They tuck into smaller spaces and the ones that tolerate some shade will fit in between shade trees. For all potential trees to plant, be aware of the mature height and spread and other characteristics.

For full information about tree selection visit <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu> and search for publication ENH107 or Choosing Suitable Trees for Urban and Suburban Sites. Local sources for trees include Apenberry's, Palmer's Garden and Goods, and Lukas Nursery, but remember to do the proper research first.

For getting a free tree from Orlando, visit <https://www.orlando.gov/Parks-the-Environment/Trees/Request-a-Free-Street-Tree>. For Winter Park check out the Community Canopy Program at <https://cityofwinterpark.org/departments/parks-recreation/urban-forestry/> and @your Request <https://cityofwinterpark.org/services/online-services/at-your-request/>.

### 100 Years Ago in 2023...

- James E. Strates, a young Greek immigrant who started as a professional wrestler founds Strates Shows and its carnival business winters in Orlando for decades.

- A large lynch mob burns most of the black community of Rosewood, FL (between Gainesville and Cedar Key) and kills at least eight of its residents.

- The Orange County Beautification Commission plants palms and oleanders along 2,000 feet on both sides of the highway (Orange Avenue) between Orlando and Winter Park.

- Roy and Walt Disney founded The Walt Disney Company.

- Mort Walker, cartoonist and creator of Beetle Bailey is born (dies 2018).

- Starting in 1923, leaded gasoline (invented by Thomas Midgley Jr.) — marketed under the brand name Ethyl — helped eliminate engine knock, fueling the rise of 20th-century car culture and exposing billions of people worldwide to dangerous levels of lead.

We are proud to have Katie Bean Travels, Commerce Bank & Trust, and Home Boys of Keller Williams Realty as our Orwin Manor Westminister Association Neighborhood Sponsors for a year.

## Mind Your Manor

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## Board Members 2023

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### Mind Your Manor Advertising Rates

- \$50 (\$180 yearly) horiz or vert 3.67" x 4.75" or a pre-printed flyer we insert into the 350 hand-delivered newsletters
- \$25 (\$90 yearly) horizontal or vertical business card size (3.5" x 2")
- \$10 for a classified text ad (approx. 30 words) OR one free 50 word ad per member, your phone number or email required.

### Newsletter Item/Ad Deadlines

Mind Your Manor Number I Winter  
Deadline – February 1  
Mind Your Manor Number II Spring  
Deadline – May 1  
Mind Your Manor Number III Summer  
Deadline – August 1  
Mind Your Manor Number IV Autumn  
Deadline – November 1

Visit [orwinmanor.org](http://orwinmanor.org) for neighborhood and event sponsorship opportunities and the advertising form.

Editor reserves the right to edit.

## AROUND THE CORNER

### Kudos

I found a Kindness Rock!! I was walking in my front yard and there it was, lying among the blades of grass with an uplifting message. It made me feel all warm and fuzzy. I'm going to hold onto it for a little bit and then re-hide the rock to spread the joy. Keep your eyes peeled. You may just stumble upon a kindness rock on your journey.



OMW Centennial Rocks!!

### Love My Manor

*100 reasons for Living in Orwin Manor* – Share your thoughts about why it's great to live in Orwin Manor and we will post them on Facebook. Email them to [info@orwinmanor.org](mailto:info@orwinmanor.org).

### Welcome to Our New Board Member

Laura Alphonso was recently elected to the board of directors. She and her husband Jason moved from Maitland to the north side of Harmon Avenue in September of 2018. They have two dogs and two cats. Laura is our first board member from the north side of Harmon Avenue which was added to the OMWA membership area this year. We hope Laura is the first of many.

### Neighborhood Update

#### *The Banning of Gas-powered Leaf Blowers in Winter Park*

By ordinance, in July of 2024 the use of gas-powered leaf blowers by ANYONE in Winter Park will no longer be allowed. However, the transition to corded or battery-operated electric blowers (or even brooms and rakes) could start at any time and should start earlier. You are encouraged to communicate your desire to have your landscape maintenance contractor transition equipment to electric well before the deadline. The benefits of eliminating gas-powered blowers include:

1. Less noise pollution (plus no need for them to idle)
2. No combustion engine fumes and no emissions at the source. Generation of electricity is less polluting and a portion is from clean energy.
3. No gas and oil pollution
4. Less weight to carry
5. Reduction of hearing loss
6. Longer life for equipment

If you are purchasing an electric battery-powered blower, look for one that uses batteries compatible with other equipment such as string trimmers, power shears, chainsaws, and mowers. For smaller properties a corded version may be the best choice.

Homeowners will be responsible for making sure gas-powered blowers are no longer used on their property.



Electric blowers only in 2024.

### CLASSIFIED AD:

Kristin and Stephen Pategas are looking to hire a part-time gardening assistant mainly on weekends for their garden. As experienced gardeners they are eager to share their knowledge. Call 407.622.4886.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PRO

### EARLY SUMMER GARDENING TIPS

BY BOARD MEMBER & ORANGE CO. MASTER GARDENER PENNY POTTER

Here are some suggestions of veggies that do well in the hot summer months to come: Calabaza, a tropical squash; Chayote, another squash that will need a trellis to climb; boniato, often called Cuban sweet potatoes, okra, southern peas and sweet potatoes. If you just have to have tomatoes, try varieties with small fruit, but check frequently for fungal & other pest problems that are so prevalent in the summer. It's unlikely that you will get much of a crop.

Now is the time to bake out nematodes and other pests in the soil, using Soil Solarization. Prepare the plot (or raised bed) as for planting, mix in organic matter, cover the plot or bed with clear (not black) plastic, and anchor it along the edges. Leave to bake for at least 7-8 weeks or longer. This method works best when the area gets a full day of sun. When it's time for planting remove the plastic, and plant without much disturbing of the soil.

Once the regular summer rains start TURN OFF YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM. The rain sensor should prevent it from coming on if there's been a good rain the night before, but it can't sense rain in the future! If there's been no rain for a few days, go ahead and turn the system on manually. You can tell if your grass needs rain by the curling up of the edges of the blades.

For more information on gardening and landscaping, call the Orange County Master Gardener Plant Clinic at 407/254-9200, or go to these websites: [solutionsforyourlife.com](http://solutionsforyourlife.com) and [ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)

## OMWA Events Calendar

- Oktoberfest - Sun, Oct. 8, 4:30pm onward
- Great Pumpkin Judging – Thur, Oct. 19, after 6pm
- Witches Walk - Tues, Oct. 31, 6:30-8pm
- Orwin Manor Aglow – Mon, Dec. 11 after 6pm, (Most Traditional, Most Creative, Most Lights)
- Luminaries – Sun, Dec. 24, rain 25, 6 pm
- Annual Meeting - Tues, Jan. 9, 2024, 7-9pm at Commerce Bank Trust

### OMWA BOARD MEETING DATES

Third Tuesday or as noted 7:30-9pm

- June 13
- August 16
- Oct. 17
- Dec. 12

*Please join us! Call 407.622.4886 to place an item on the agenda.*

## NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS

Join us at the historic clubhouse at Dubsdread Golf Course, 549 West Par Street, Orlando every second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. We have reserved the long high top table adjacent to the bar in the Taproom.

Upcoming Dates:

- Wednesday, June 14, 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, July 12, 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, August 9, 5:30 pm

## OMWA CENTENNIAL UPDATE

*Join a Centennial Committee:*

- *Events*
- *Historical Research*
- *Projects*
- *Public Relations*
- *Sponsorships*

*by emailing Stephen Pategas at [info@orwinmanor.org](mailto:info@orwinmanor.org)*

The OMWA board has set the Centennial Sponsorship levels and benefits for 2023 and 2024:

- Level 1: Knight - \$75 w/ recognition (MYM, Facebook, message board in The Park at Orwin Manor)
- Level 2: Noble - \$250 w/ above plus other benefits web ad, t-shirt
- Level 3: Crown - \$500 w/ above plus MYM ad
- Level 4: Royal - \$750 w/ above plus booth space at block parties & the Centennial Bash in fall of 2024.

Funds are needed for: block parties, the Centennial Bash in the fall of 2024, rebuilding of the missing gateway arches, and T-shirts.

Donations may be sent as checks to Orwin Manor Westminster Association at P. O. Box 2367, Winter Park, FL 32790-2367 or visit [www.orwinmanor.org/](http://www.orwinmanor.org/) membership and use PayPal or a debit or credit card.

# IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## Guidelines for Successful Tree Planting and Establishment

By Stephen Pategas

Use these guidelines to plant your new tree. If you hire a landscape contractor, make them part of your agreement.

1. You may have room above ground for a tree but is there room below ground? Before the purchase, dig the hole so you know the root ball will fit. Be a pessimist and assume there may be large roots or utilities in the way. If there isn't another location, a smaller tree or no tree may be the result. A tree in the wrong place is worse than no tree at all.

2. As the test hole is dug, temporarily place the excavated soil on tarps or into containers so the soil doesn't get mixed up with the mulch or smother plants. Planting a tree should enhance the garden and not destroy it.

3. Remove all non-biodegradable coverings and wire baskets and even biodegradable burlap if the root ball is firm. Trees with root choked root balls usually languish after planting. Sometimes the tree can transcend a too-tight root ball if the roots are seriously loosened just prior to planting. Often the bottom of a root packed root ball should be butterflied. Remove any roots that circle the trunk.

4. Find the top main root at the trunk and if needed remove soil to expose the root. Then to determine the depth for the hole, measure the depth of the root ball and subtract two-to-three inches so the top root ends up above the existing grade. If you dig too deep compact the soil in the bottom so the tree does not settle later. Then dig sideways so the hole is wider than the root ball by about fifty-percent. Check the depth again.

5. As the hole is backfilled, water in the soil to fill air pockets around the root ball and do not add any soil amendments or fertilizer. According to research they are not needed.

6. Place the inner edge of the three-inch-high soil saucer/donut just inside the outer edge of the root ball so when filled, the water only sits on top of the root ball and doesn't drain down its side. Add no more than a one-inch depth of mulch to the top of the root ball so water easily penetrates. Keep mulch four inches away from the trunk.

7. Excess soil not used in the saucer should be used to fill low spots or be removed from the property.

8. Don't count on irrigation or rainfall, or reset the automatic irrigation to water everything every day just to water the tree. Instead, buy a battery-operated timer for a hose bibb and run a hose to the saucer. Fill the saucer with about two to three gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter every day at first during the summer. Following the initial few months of frequent irrigation, provide weekly irrigation until plants are fully established. At each irrigation, apply 2 to 3 gallons of water per inch trunk diameter (e.g., 2 to 6 gallons for a 2-inch tree) over the root ball only. Any more than that is wasteful.

9. See <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/irrigation2.shtml> for details.

10. Once the tree is established (about three months per inch of trunk diameter if watered regularly) dispose of the soil saucer and make sure the top main root is still exposed.

Follow these steps and a well-planted and established tree will be a great addition to your garden and the environment.

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## Orwin Manor Membership 2023

Become an Orwin Manor Westminster Association Member

Thanks to all our existing and new members for supporting our neighborhood events and newsletter! OMWA dues fund our events, this newsletter, our P.O. box, rental unit fees, and so much more. Our dues are only \$25 per year.

If you would like to join, simply mail a check to:

Orwin Manor Westminster Association, PO Box 2367, Winter Park, FL 32790-2367  
Or pay online at [www.orwinmanor.org](http://www.orwinmanor.org), under resources tab select membership.

Email us at [info@orwinmanor.org](mailto:info@orwinmanor.org) with any questions.

69 PAID AS OF MAY 30, 2023

Please join us.

*Help us reach 100 members for*

**100** YEARS!!

# CONGRATULATIONS!

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## NEW! Neighborhood Gathering at the Blue Bamboo Sunday July 16

Located at 1905 Kentucky Avenue just west of Lombardi's Seafood, the Blue Bamboo ([bluebambooartcenter.com](http://bluebambooartcenter.com)) is an intimate live music venue. Join us on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at the 3p.m. matinee event with an area reserved for our neighbors. Purchase tickets from Blue Bamboo. Stay tuned and sign up for the Orwin Manor E-News by visiting [www.orwinmanor.org](http://www.orwinmanor.org).

Not an OMWA Member???

IT'S EASY TO BECOME AN OMWA MEMBER

1. SCAN THIS CODE
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We are proud to have Katie Bean Travels, Commerce Bank & Trust, and Home Boys of Keller Williams Realty as our Orwin Manor Westminster Association Neighborhood Sponsors for a year.